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Book and Job Printing

EXECUTED WITH SPEED AND DESPATCH.

POETRY.

LITTLE WOMEN.

In a little precious stone,
What splendor meets the eyes!
In a little lump of sugar,
How much of sweetness lies!
So in a little woman,
Love grows and multiplies;
You recollect the proverb,
"A word unto the wise."

A pepper-corn is very small,
But seasons every dinner,
More than all other condiments,
Although 'tis sprinkled thinner;
Just so a little woman is,
If love will let you win her—
There's not a joy in all the world
You will not find within her.

And as within the little rose
You will find the richest dyes,
And in a little grain of gold,
Much price and value lies;
As from a little balm
Much odor doth arise,
So in a little woman,
There's a taste of paradise.

The skylark and the nightingale,
Though small and light of wing,
Yet warble sweeter in the grove,
Than all the birds that sing;
And so a little woman,
Though a very little thing,
Is sweeter far than angar,
And flowers that bloom in Spring.

THE SON OF "THE HUNTER-SPY."

A LEGEND OF THE REVOLUTION.
BY GEORGE LIPFARD.

The gleam of the hearthside taper flashed far
over the valley of the Brandywine. From the
upper window of that peaceful home it flamed, a
long and quivering ray of golden lights.
The old house stood alone, some few paces
from the road, at least an hundred yards from
the waters of the Brandywine. A small fabric
of dark grey stones, standing in the centre of a
slope of grassy sod, steep roof, narrow windows,
and a rustic porch before the door. On either side
of the grassy slope, the woods darkened, thick and
luxuriant; above, the universe of stars shed their
calm, tranquil light over the slumbering valley;
from afar, the musical murmur of the waves, roll-
ing over their pebbled bed, broke the deep silence
of the night.

Let us look through the darkness, and by the
clear starlight, behold this small two-storied fab-
ric, in all its rustic beauty, while yonder, not
twenty yards distant, a hay-rick rises from the
level of the sod. All is still around this home of
Brandywine—the house, the gently-ascending
slope, the conical hay-rick, the surrounding
woods, presents a picture of deep repose.
We will enter the home, yes, into the upper
room, from whose narrow window the ray of the
fire-side taper gleams along the shadowy valley.
An old man, sitting easily in his oaken arm-
chair, the glow of the candle upon his wrinkled
face and snowy hairs. The smoke of his pipe
winds around his face and head; his blue eyes
gleaming with calm light, and composed features,
and attitude of careless ease, all betoken a mind
at peace with God and man.

On one side you behold his couch, with its
coverlet of unrolled white; yonder a rude table,
placed beneath a small mirror, with a Bible, old
and venerable, laid upon its surface. Here is a
narrow hearth, summing with a slight fire of
hickory faggot; beside the hearth, you see the
door of a closet, its panels hewn of solid oak,
and darkened into inky blackness by the touch
of time.

In the centre of the room, his calm face glow-
ing in the light of the candle, sits the old man,
coat and vest thrown aside, as he quietly smokes
his grateful pipe. As he knocks the ashes from
the bowl, you may see that he is one-armed; for
the right arm has been severed at the shoulder;
the sleeve dangles by his side.

You will confess that it is but a quiet, nay, a
fame picture, which I have drawn for you—an
old and one-armed man, smoking his evening
pipe, ere he retires to rest, his wrinkled face mel-
lowed with unpeppable content, his blue eyes
gleaming from beneath the thick grey eye-brows
as with the light of blessed memories.

And yet this scene, placed beside another
scene which will occur ere an hour passes, might
well draw tears from a heart of granite.

Suddenly the old man places his hand against
his brow; his mid blue eye moistens with a
tear. His soul is with the past—with the wife
who now sleeps the last slumber, under the sod
of the Quaker grave-yard—with the scenes of
battle, in the dim forests, where the rifle-blaze
streams redly over the leaves, and the yell of the
Indian mingles with the war of cataract.

All at once there comes a memory which
blanches the old man's cheek, glis with wild light
his calm blue eye. Looking back into time, he

beholds a dim recess of the forest, perched above
the waters of the cataract, the sunbeams playing
over its moss, while the face of a dead man glares
horribly in the last flush of the sunset hour.

The old man rises, paces the floor, with his
only hand wipes the moisture from his brow.
"It was right," he murmurs—"He had betray-
ed a thousand brave men to death, and he died!"
And yet, look where he might, through that
quiet room, he beheld a dead man, suspended to
the limb of a forest oak, with the sunlight—that
last red flush of sunset, which is so beautiful—
playing warmly over the livid features.

"This you will confess, was a terrible memory,
or a strange frenzy. An old man, whose life for
at least twenty years had been spent in the scenes
of a quiet home, to behold a livid face, working
convulsively in death, wherever he turned!

"I know not why it is, but whenever I turn, I
seem to see—yes, I do see—a dead man's face!
And whenever I try to think of my dead wife, I
hear a voice repeating—'This night, this night
you die!'"

As the old man spoke, resuming his pipe, a
slight sound disturbed the silence of the room—
He turned, and there, like a picture framed by
the rough timbers of the doorway, beheld the
form of a young girl, clad slightly, in her night-
dress with a mass of brown hair about her face
and shoulders.

One hand was raised, the finger to her lip, and
the round white arm, gleaming in the light; the
other grasped the handle of the door.
There was something very beautiful in the
sight.

Not that her dress was fashioned of silk or pur-
ple, or that her white neck shone with the gleam
of diamonds or pearls. Ah, no! Her dress was
made of coarse home-spun cloth; it left her arms,
and neck, and feet, bare to the light. Still there
was a beauty about her young face, which glowed
on the lips and cheeks, with the warmth of a
summer dawn, and shone in the deep blue eyes,
with the tranquil loveliness of a starlight night.

Her hair, too, you cannot say that it gathered
in curls, or floated in tresses; but, to tell the
sober truth, in color it was of that rich brown,
which deepens into black, and waving from her
white forehead, it fell in one glossy mass down
to the white bosom, which had never been ruffled
by a thought of sin.

With regard to the young form, whose out-
lines gleamed on you, even from the folds or her
course dress, you could not affirm that it rivalled
the dream of the Sculptor, the Venus de Medici,
or burst forth in all the majestic beauty of one of
Raphael's Painted Poems. It was but the form of
a Peasant Girl, reminding you, in every hue
and outline, of a wild forest rose, that flourishing
alone, amid large green leaves, on the verge of
its perfect bloom; not so gorgeous as a hot-house
plant, still very warm, and very lovable, and
very beautiful.

And she stood there, even on the threshold,
her finger to her lip, gazing with a look of wild
alarm, upon the wrinkled face of her father, the
one-armed schoolmaster of Brandywine.

"Mary!" the old man exclaimed his eyes ex-
panding with wonder. "Hush, father! Do you
not hear the tread of armed men? Listen! Do
you not hear the rattling of arms? Hark! That
deep-toned whisper, coupled with an oath—'May-
land, the spy—break the door—arrest, and bear
him away to the British camp!'"

And, while the word trembled on her lip, a
dull, heavy sound broke like a knell upon the
air. It was the crashing of a musket-stock
against the door of the schoolmaster's home.

"Fly! For God's sake, fly!" exclaimed Mary,
darting forward, and laying her white hand on
the old man's arm.

"Fly!" he echoed, with a bewildered look—
"Wherefore? I whom have I wronged that I
should fly from my own home at midnight, like a
hunted beast?"

In brief words, uttered with gushing breath
and tremulous bosom, the Daughter revealed the
strange secret:

"A week ago, you gave shelter to an old man,
clad in the garb of a forest-hunter. That man
left in your charge a packet, which you prom-
ised to transmit, without delay, to the Camp of
Washington!"

"And did so, this very morning!"

"That packet was stolen from the camp-chest
of General Howe. It contained his plans of bat-
tle. Now do you guess wherefore the British
soldiers surround your house, whispering your
name as 'Mayland, the Spy!'"

"The old man's countenance fell."
"Oh, that I had my own good right arm again!"
he cried, after a moment's pause—"I would defy
the whole pack of red-coat hounds!"

"Harsh language, this! But it must be confess-
ed the old schoolmaster was prejudiced against
the British; he had seen but one side of the
question—aye, read it, too, in the smouldering
ruins of the homes they had burned, in the livid
faces of the farmers they had butchered."

"The Peasant Girl—clad lightly as she was, in
her night dress—tripped softly to the opposite
side of the room, and opened the closet door—
In a moment, she had torn the loose boards from
the floor.

"Father, the way of escape lies before you!—
This ladder descends from the closet into the
cellar; from the cellar a subterranean passage
leads to the side of the hill! Quick—there is no
time to be lost! For God's sake—fly!"

"The ladder was used as a stairway in the old
times; the underground passage was made in the
time of the Indians," murmured the old man. "But
my daughter, who will protect you?"

"They seek not to harm me," she hurriedly ex-
claimed—"Hark! Do you hear their shouts?"
And, as if in answer to her words, there came

a hoarse and murmuring cry from beneath the
windows.

"One blow, and we'll force the door!" a deep
voice was heard—"Remember, comrades! a hun-
dred guineas, if we catch the Spy!"

The old man hesitated no longer. Placing a
foot on the ladder he began to descend. His
daughter, bending over him, held the light in her
extended hand; its rays lighted his grey hairs,
and warmed the soft outlines of her face.

"Quick, father!" she gaspingly whispered—
"The passage leads out on the hill side, near
the hay-stack! Ha! he descends—one moment,
more, and he will stand in the passage! Another
moment, and he will be free!"

Holding the light above her head, she swept
her brown hair aside from her face, and gazed
into the darkness beneath with dilating eyes.
Still, from beneath the windows, arose that
hoarse cry; again the crash of musket-stocks
against the door.

"In truth, the father is in great danger," said
a mild voice, which made the young girl start as
though she had trod on a serpent's fang.

She turned, and beheld a man of slender frame
clad in a plain garb of the Quaker faith. Gaze
upon him, and tell me, in that contracted face,
with sharp nose and hawk-like grey eye, thin lips
and brown hair, curling to the shoulders, do you
recognize some Memory of the Past?

Does it look like the face of the Hunter-Spy,
who hung above the chasm, long years ago, or
like the countenance of his Son, the laughing
boy, whose blood was congealed to ice, by the
vision of the murdered man?

"Gilbert Gates!" exclaimed Mary; "here, too,
in this hour of peril! Then indeed, does evil
threaten us!"

"Maiden, thee wrongs me," exclaimed the soft
and insinuating voice. "Passing along the val-
ley, on the way to my farm, which—as thee
knows—lies near Brenton's ford, I beheld thee
father's house surrounded by armed men, who
clamored for his blood. I found entrance by a
back window, and am here to save thee!"

"Burst open the door!" arose the shout from
beneath the windows. "We'll trap the Rebel in
his den!"

"You here to save me?" exclaimed Mary, as
she blushed from the bosom to the brow with
scorn. "I tell you man, there is traitor on your
forehead and in your eye!"

"Look thee, maiden—but two hours ago, thee
father did reject the offer of marriage which I
made to thee, with words of bitterness and scorn.
Now he is threatened with death—nay, smile not
in derision—thy honor is menaced with ruin!—
Be mine—yea, consent to receive my hand in
marriage and I will save ye!"

"Ah! his footsteps are in the cellar—he gains
the passage—he is saved!" exclaimed Mary, as
she flung the rays of the light into the gloom be-
low.

"Be yours!" and while every pulse throbb-
ed tumultuously with longing, she turned to the
strange man by her side—Neither your assu-
med dress, nor awkward attempt at the Quaker di-
allect can deceive me! I know you—scorn you!
Nay, do not advance—I am but a weak girl, but
dare to pollute me, with but a finger's touch, and
as heaven nerves my arm, I will brain you with
this oaken brand!"

She stood on the verge of the closet, one hand
grasping the light, while the other raised aloft a
solid piece of oak, which she had seized from the
floor.

You can see the man of slender figure and
Quaker dress shrink back appalled. A wild
light blazes in his grey eye; his long, talon-like
fingers are pressed convulsively against his breast.
Suddenly, his hard features were softened by a
look of emotion, which played over his face like
a sunbeam trembling on a rock of granite.

"Maiden, did thee know my life—my oath—
thee would not trust me thus. He died alone in
the wild wood—ah, even now, I see the sunset flush
upon his icy face! My father—the only friend
I ever had—the only thing I ever loved. Maiden,
become mine, and all shall be forgotten—all,
even my oath!"

Clasping his hands, while his cold grey eyes
were wet with tears, he advanced, and gazed up-
on the warm bloom of the maiden's face.

For a moment, she gazed upon him, while the
flush of scorn, which reddened her cheeks, was
succeeded by a look of deep compassion.

Again that deep roar beneath the windows—
hark! A crash—a wild yell—"We have the
Rebel up stairs, and the guineas are ours!"

"Does thee consent?" exclaimed Gilbert Gates,
advancing a single step.

"Ha! The door between the cellar and the
passage door is unfastened! But I will save my
father at the hazard of my life!"

With one bound she flung herself upon the lad-
der, and, with the light above her head, descend-
ed into the darkness of the cellar. As she went
down, her hair fell waving over her neck and
shoulders, over the bosom which heaved tumultu-
ously into the light.

Gilbert Gates, in his Quaker garb, with his
hands folded over his narrow chest, stood alone
in the darkness of the schoolmaster's bed-room.
All was darkness around him, yet there was a
light within, which burned his heart-strings, and
filled his blood with liquid fire.

Darkness around him; no eye to look upon
the writhings of his face; and yet, even there,
through the gloom, he beheld that fearful vision—
a dead man swinging over the abyss of a cata-
ract, with the sunset flush upon his icy face.

Suddenly there was the sound of tramping feet
upon the stairs; then the blaze of torches flash-
ed into the room, and some twenty forms, dressed
in the attire of Tory Refugees—half soldier, half
soldier—came rushing over the threshold.

"The schoolmaster—where is he?" exclaimed
their leader, a burly ruffian, with crape over his

face, and a white belt across his breast. "Speak,
Gilbert!"

"The Spy!" echoed the deep voices of the To-
ries as they waved their torches, their rifles, and
their knives, above their heads.

"Yes, Smooth-speech, where's the schoolmas-
ter, and the pretty robin his daughter, Polly?" cried
a voice, which issued from a mass of carbun-
clad face, which in its turn, is surmounted by a
huge form, clad in scarlet. "A hundred guineas
for the lass, you know; eh, comrades?"

The answer of Gilbert was short and concise.
"In truth, it seems to me, the old man May-
land and his daughter Mary, are even now, in
the cellar, attending to their household affairs!"

With one movement, the Tory Captain and his
comrades rushed down the stairway.
Gilbert approached the closet; a light, gleam-
ing from the cellar below, bathed his face in a
red glare.

He will emerge from the passage on the hill-
side, near the hay-stack," he muttered, while a de-
moniac look worked over his contracted face—
"Fairer tombs have I seen—but none so warm!"

As he gazes down the narrow passage, the
light from beneath, reddening his face, while his
slender form quivers with a death-like agony—
Let us go back through the vista of twenty years,
and behold the boy gazing into the darkness of
the chasm, in search of his father's corpse.

Who, in the cold-featured, stony-eyed Gilbert
Gates, would recognize the boy with laughing
eyes and flowing hair?

The blaze of torches illumined the cellar.
Before a door of solid oak which separated the
cellar from the subterranean passage, the Tories
paused. Then deep-muttered oaths alone distur-
bed the midnight silence.

"Quick—we have no time to lose—he is hid-
den in the underground passage—let us force the
door, before the people of the valley come to his
rescue!"

Thus speaking, the Tory leader, whose face
was hidden beneath the folds of crape, pointed
with his sword towards a heavy billet of wood,
which laid on the hard clay of the cellar floor.

Four stalwart Tories seize it in their muscular
grasp; they stand prepared to dash the door from
its hinges.

"One good blow and the Spy is ours!" shouts
the Tory leader, with an oath.

"And the guineas—don't forget the guineas,
and the girl!" growled the red-faced British Ser-
geant.

The torch-light fell over their faces, frenzied
by intoxication and rage, over their forms, clad
in plain farmer's costume, with a belt across ev-
ery chest, a powder horn by each side.

And at this moment, as they stand ready to
dash the door into fragments, on the other side
stands Mary, the peasant girl, her round white
arm supplying the place of bar and fastening—
Yes, with the light in her extended right arm,
she gazes after the retreating form of her father,
while her left arm is placed through the staples
in the place of the bar.

One blow and the maiden's arm will be rent
in fragments, even to the shoulder, one blow, and
over her crushed and trampled body, will be made
the pathway of the ravager and robber!

"Heaven, pity me! My father has not suffi-
cient strength to roll the rock from the mouth of
the passage! I hear their voices—their threats—
they prepare to force the door, but I will fol-
low them even yet! They shall not pass to my fa-
ther's heart, save over the dead body of his child!"

Meanwhile, on the opposite side of the door,
the four ruffians stood ready with the billet of
oak, in their iron grasp.

"Now!" shouted the Tory Captain, "one good
blow and it is done!"

They swayed the log slowly to and fro—it moved
forward—all the impulse of their iron sinews
concentrated in the effort—when a heavy body
fell from the narrow window of the cellar and
beat the billet to the ground.

The curse of the Tory leader echoed through
the vault.

In a moment, ere they could raise a hand, up
from the darkness there rose the form of a giant
Negro, bared to the waist, his broad chest heav-
ing, while his eyes rolled wildly in his inky face.

"Black Sampson!" growled the Tory. "Stand
aside, clear off, or I'll cut you down!"

"Look heah!" shouted the Negro, confronting
the armed Tories with his bared arms and breast,
while his teeth grated convulsively. "Stair off—
I say stair off! Ole Massa Mayland' kind to
Sampson—git he!"

"You are bread when he hungry—med-
cin' when he sick! Now you gwang to hurt de
ole man? I 'spose not, while Sampson hale an
arm! Stair off—I'm dangerous!"

And the Black Hercules towered aloft, his sin-
ews writhing, his teeth clenched, his features—
moulded with the aquiline contour of the Ashan-
tee race—quivering with rage.

There was a struggle—the gleam of arms—
shouts and curses—yet still the Negro beat them
back—dashing their swords aside with his weap-
onless hands.

Still, true to that wild fidelity—which burned
in his savage heart like a gleam from Heaven—he
shouted his hoarse warcry.

"De ole man kind to Sampson! 'Spouse you
hurt him? You mus' kill dis nigger fast!"
Again he beat them back—but at last, by a si-
multaneous effort they bore him to the earth.

At the same moment, the door flew open, and
a shriek quivered through the cellar:

"Saved—my father—saved!"

"There, beneath the glare of the torches, lay the
form of the fainting girl—her bosom pulseless,
her face as white as death.

"This way!" cried the Tory Captain. "We
will secure the Spy first, and then his daughter!"

They rushed after their leader—their shouts
and cries, echoed far along the passage.

In another moment, a light shone over the cel-
lar and a man of some twenty-six years, attired in
the brown dress of a farmer, with blue eyes and
flaxen hair, advanced toward the unconscious
girl.

"Here's a purty business!" he exclaimed, with
a strong German accent—"De nigger kilt, and
Polly half dead?"

And thus speaking, honest Gottlieb Hoff knelt
beside the unconscious girl.

[TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

BE GRATEFUL.

Famine in Ireland—famine in Scotland, with
more or less of suffering and oppression in every
part of the old world. How ungrateful to Heav-
en should every American be, if in addition to
extending the hand of relief wherever it can be of
service, he were not always filled with thankful-
ness that he enjoys a position so abundant in com-
fort, freedom and plenty, that the sorrows of
which he hears are those which appeal rather to
his imagination than to his experience, to enable
him to realize the hard fate of his brother man.

Famine!—what know we of famine? We may
hear of it—read of it; but we have never seen it
or felt it; and the accounts which reach us may
convey a true idea of the misery thus engendered,
to those who have gazed upon starvation face to
face—but to us, in the midst of the profusion of
our tables—for comparatively, we are all profuse
in this respect,—it is perhaps but a shadow of the
reality that we are able to conjure up. And
then, apart from this terrible want of food, we
should be abroad for a time, that by the force of
contrast we may learn to appreciate all the bless-
ings we enjoy in other respects, and to observe
how poor humanity is hampered and borne down
in every variety of way, without liberty to move,
to speak, or to act, unless under the guidance and
permission of that authority which contrives to
appropriate to itself the larger share of all that
can be earned. We may grumble—we may growl
at affairs at home; and perhaps to a certain ex-
tent it is proper and necessary that some of us
should do so, as a corrective influence—for the
asperities of party spirit have a wise purpose to
serve—but it should never be otherwise than
present to the memory that the American people
stand alone, in the exemption from real evils; and
that when we do complain in the midst of our
freedom, our intelligence and our plenty, we are
only exemplifying the fact that if we have no
downright affliction to lament, our ingenuity
will contrive to shape a something which will an-
swer the same purpose. Well fed, well clothed,
well housed—with little bond upon us except the
compulsion to respect our neighbors' rights, and
with the largest liberty in opinion and in all mat-
ters connected with the exercise of our energies
and industrious dispositions, the world never be-
fore witnessed a spectacle of such unclouded hap-
piness. Let us beware then that from the excess
of the goodness lavished upon us, we are not for-
getful of the source from which it springs and of
the duties which it imposes. We are not here
selfishly—not solely for our own personal enjoy-
ments and gratifications; but are required, each
according to his means and his ability, to strive
to extend the circle of human comfort and to in-
crease the sum of earthly well-being. Happy,
are you?—envied by all that you could desire?
Take care, then, that it does not harden the heart.

BROTHER JONATHAN. The origin of this term
applied to the United States, is given in a recent
number of the Norwich Courier. The editor
says it was communicated by an intelligent gen-
tleman, now upwards of eighty years of age, who
was an active participator in the scenes of the
revolution. The story is as follows:

"When General Washington, after being ap-
pointed commander of the army of the revolution,
came to Massachusetts to organize it, and make
preparations for the defence of the country, he
found a great destitution of ammunition and other
means necessary to meet the powerful foe he had
to contend with, and great difficulty to obtain
them.

If attacked in such a condition, the cause at
once might be hopeless. On one occasion, at
that period, a consultation of the officers and
others was had when it seemed no way could be
devised to make such preparation was neces-
sary. His excellency Jonathan Trumbull the
elder who was then governor of the State of Con-
necticut, on whose judgment and aid the general
placed the greatest reliance, remarked, we must
consult 'Brother Jonathan' on the subject. The
general did so and the governor was successful in
supplying many of the wants of the army spread
over the country. It became a by-word, 'we
must consult Brother Jonathan.' The term
Yankee is still applied to a portion, but 'Brother
Jonathan,' has now become a designation of the
whole country as John Bull has for England.

A shoemaker being at work, his awl broke,
whereupon the shoemaker cursed his useless in-
strument. His wife then reminded him that he
was breaking an express command of Scripture,
which says, 'Swear not at all.'

CONSERVATIVE.—We have often seen a man
converted from a reasonable creature to a goose,
by the untimely process. But its effect in regard
to turkeys, was never explained to us before?

HOW TO MAKE A TURKEY TENDER.—The Eg-
yptians adopt a curious method of making a tur-
key tender. Half an hour before the bird is kil-
led, a glass of brandy is poured down its throat,
which produces complete intoxication, and the
flesh of the turkey acquires a tenderness su-
perior to that which is produced by even long
keeping.

